



[Environment Arizona](#) is a non-profit organization working to protect our air, water, and open spaces. We requested that each of the at-large candidates for SRP's District Board respond to the questions below by March 12, 2018. We let the candidates know we would share unedited responses with our supporters and interested others prior to the SRP District Board Election on April 3, 2018. Environment Arizona is not endorsing candidates in this election. This questionnaire is intended solely to provide information about the policy positions of the candidates. Responses are listed in alphabetical order by last name. If you or someone you know haven't requested a ballot to vote in the SRP election, please go to www.SRPVote.org.

Bill Arnett

Did not answer the questionnaire.

Corey Hawkey

Question 1: SRP uses substantially more fossil fuels than renewable energy to generate electricity, a practice that harms public health and our environment. If elected, how would you encourage SRP to significantly increase its use of renewable energy?

Response: 1) Work with the board to repeal the rooftop solar killing E-27 rate - the price process will occur in FY19 and can be reviewed at that time.

2) Expedite solar plus storage RFP efforts - with all 5 of us elected - we could reasonably double planned large-scale renewable opportunities in our first term.

3) Improve communication and coordination with municipalities and other major stakeholders (businesses, etc) to ensure they have a 21st century utility to work with for their renewable energy projects. We will develop commercial partnerships with companies that offer microgrid, solar, utility-scale storage, water conservation, and other technologies.

Question 2: Since the SRP board approved demand charges for new residential solar customers in 2015, applications and installations of rooftop solar in SRP territory have significantly declined. If elected, would you work for and vote to overturn these charges on rooftop solar customers?

Response: #1 priority. I will work to implement an "all of the above" strategy to increase SRP's renewable generation to 50% ASAP. Rooftop solar is not THE answer but it is a critical component of the answer.

Question 3: Because SRP's "sustainability" portfolio includes large hydro power and energy efficiency, the utility's goals for renewable energy and energy efficiency are effectively lower than that of Arizona's regulated utilities. Do you support increasing SRP's goal for renewable energy under definitions more closely aligned with Arizona's regulated utilities? Do you support increasing SRP's goal for energy efficiency more closely aligned with Arizona's regulated utilities?

Response: Yes, I support increasing SRP's goal for energy efficiency and improving alignment with Arizona's regulated utilities. Here's what I'd do:

- 1) I will request staff to outline the best practices for at least three public and three private utilities.*
- 2) I will ask that those practices be compared line by line with SRP practices*
- 3) I will seek to align SRP's goals with the best in the industry and seek to use the same, if not better, metrics to evaluate performance.*
- 4) Currently SRP underwrites about \$40M/yr in energy efficiency. I will work with SW Energy Efficiency Project to assure that all cost-effective megawatts are fully funded.*

Question 4: The 21st century utility will need to integrate high levels of renewable energy with energy storage to meet customer demand. How would you put SRP on a path to integrate renewable resources with energy storage?

Response: 1) Encourage professional development on the board as well as with staff to get the latest and greatest information in the renewable and storage space.

- 2) Improve coordination and collaboration with municipalities and large stakeholders to ensure SRP is ready to foster and develop projects on an expedited timeline*
- 3) Encourage a shift from "product" based model to a "service" based model - where SRP treats ratepayers as a part of a community energy system rather a recipient of energy.*
- 4) Ensure that SRP is prepared for and fostering electric vehicle adoption.*
- 5) Assure that SRP participates in a wide range of R&D projects that develop pathways to many ways that energy storage systems can be used to optimize grid functions, stabilize power supplies, reduce operating time for fossil energy plants, and optimize the use of renewable energy sources.*

It is my opinion that a strategic plan would need to be developed to lay out timelines, goals, and metrics to ensure SRP is transitioning to a 21st century utility. A plan would ensure a more efficient and effective transition that would be respectful of the over 1M ratepayers.

This can be done and I hope to be one of Arizona's voices on the board.

Thank you!

Randy Miller

Question 1: SRP uses substantially more fossil fuels than renewable energy to generate electricity, a practice that harms public health and our environment. If elected, how would you encourage SRP to significantly increase its use of renewable energy?

Response: As a new member on the SRP Board, I would set a goal of removing or greatly changing the E-27 Customer Self-Generation plan. This plan is punitive towards solar customers and with the amount of energy we receive from the sun here in the "Valley of the Sun" almost everyday, we should take advantage of this virtually unlimited fuel source. I don't remember the last time that I had to pay more for the photons that are landing on top of my home. Natural Gas maybe at all time historical price lows, but it is a limited resource and depending on the future political climate, may not be the best resource in the long term.

Question 2: Since the SRP board approved demand charges for new residential solar customers in 2015, applications and installations of rooftop solar in SRP territory have significantly declined. If elected, would you work for and vote to overturn these charges on rooftop solar customers?

Response: Yes! It is interesting that the SRP Board has been going into executive session in many board meetings to discuss their "SolarCity lawsuit", and almost 1 month before the election, they decided to end their 3 year legal battle with Tesla Energy that went to the US Supreme Court. Unfortunately, the end of the "SolarCity lawsuit" doesn't remove the egregious customer demand charges that are still part of the E-27 plan and also Tesla Energy just got SRP to become a customer of theirs. So from my perspective SRP wins!, Tesla Energy wins!, and SRP solar / E-27 ratepayers lose. How much ratepayer money has SRP spent on lawyers fighting this lawsuit for the past 3 years? As a new board member, I will push SRP to remove these demand charges from the E-27 plan or completely eliminate the E-27 plan in the upcoming overall pricing process review. SRP needs to figure out how to utilize resources that they do not own to generate electricity and become more of a service oriented company vs. a generation company. The utility company of the future has to be more service driven as many other industries have already transitioned to this model. How many cars do Uber or Lyft own? How many hotels does Airbnb own? SRP needs to figure out how to move to a similar service oriented customer driven model.

Question 3: Because SRP's "sustainability" portfolio includes large hydro power and energy efficiency, the utility's goals for renewable energy and energy efficiency are effectively lower than that of Arizona's regulated utilities. Do you support increasing SRP's goal for renewable energy under definitions more closely aligned with Arizona's regulated utilities? Do you support increasing SRP's goal for energy efficiency more closely aligned with Arizona's regulated utilities?

Response: I would work to make SRP report the "sustainability" portfolio like all other utilities that report to the Arizona Corporation Commission using the Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff. I also would work to keep the energy efficiency numbers separate from the renewable energy numbers. Currently, SRP combines Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in their sustainability reports and I feel that is just wrong and misleading to the public.

Question 4: The 21st century utility will need to integrate high levels of renewable energy with energy storage to meet customer demand. How would you put SRP on a path to integrate renewable resources with energy storage?

Response: The utility company of the future is based on renewable energy + storage. Distributed generation is more efficient than central generation. If you use or store the energy where it is created, there is much less loss than moving the electrons along miles of high voltage wires, that we don't really want to see in our neighborhoods anyway. I will work with SRP to become a service driven company and learn how to utilize distributed generation and storage as way to stabilize the grid (frequency response, voltage regulation, etc) and deliver energy to customers at the lowest possible cost. SRP also needs to get more involved in behind the meter demand response systems to incentivize customers to not use as much energy during peak grid system usage. If long term maintenance is cheaper and fuel cost is nearly "free" for solar then as long as we have storage systems that are economically feasible, I don't see how solar + storage can't be the cheapest form of energy production in the long term and I will push SRP to study utility scale and residential scale energy storage projects.

Wendy Marshall

Did not answer the questionnaire.

Paid for by Environment Arizona, a project of Environment America.